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## MEMORANDUM

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AZ CORP COMMISSION DOCKET CONTROL

TO:

Chairman Mike Gleason

William A. Mundell, Commissioner Jeff Hatch-Miller, Commissioner Kristin K. Mayes, Commissioner

Gary Pierce, Commissioner

FROM:

Ernest G. Johnson

Director

Utilities Division

DATE:

July 2, 2007

RE:

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NACO WATER COMPANY, LLC FOR A RATE INCREASE (DOCKET NO. W-02860A-06-0002) AND IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF NACO WATER COMPANY, LLC FOR APPROVAL OF FINANCING (DOCKET NO. W-02860A-05-0727) – TO AMEND

DECISION NO. 69393

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

JUL - 3 2007

DOCKETED BY

The Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") of the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") has recently been informed by the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona ("WIFA") that it would like to designate Naco Water Company, LLC ("Naco") as a Disadvantaged Community (based on WIFA Policy No. 1.012) as part of WIFA's loan approval to Naco. This designation would allow WIFA to extend the term of the loan from 20 to 30 years and also allow WIFA to lower the interest rate of the loan, thereby resulting in lower debt payments.

In Decision No. 69393, the Commission authorized Naco to enter into a loan agreement with WIFA, but limited the term of the loan to 20 years. In order for Naco to accept a 30 year loan from WIFA, Decision No. 69393 would have to be amended.

Arizona Revised Statute § 40-252 authorizes the Commission to amend a previous decision under notice to the affected corporation and the opportunity to be heard. Staff has notified Naco and Naco has indicated that it will waive an evidentiary hearing and request that this matter be placed on the Open Meeting agenda as soon as possible.

Staff believes that having WIFA designate Naco as a Disadvantaged Community in order to lower debt payments by having a 30 year loan with a lower interest rate would not only be beneficial to Naco but also its customers. Therefore, Staff recommends that Decision No. 69393 be amended as follows:

Commissioners July 2, 2007 Page 2

Page 18, Line 14 -

Delete "20" and Replace with "up to 30"

This would result in the pertinent ordering paragraph reading as follows:

"IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Naco Water Company, LLC is authorized to borrow up to \$1,160,000 from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority for a term of up to 30 years, at the interest rate approved by WIFA."

A Proposed Order is attached to this Memorandum for your consideration.

## EGJ:SMO:lhm

cc:

Kenneth Rozen

Adam Stafford

Dean Miller

Matt Derr

John LeSueur

Brian C. McNeil, Executive Director

Christopher C. Kempley, Chief Legal Counsel

Bonnie L. O'Connor, Naco Water Company, LLC

Docket Control Center

#### BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION 1 2 MIKE GLEASON Chairman 3 WILLIAM A. MUNDELL Commissioner JEFF HATCH-MILLER 4 Commissioner KRISTIN K. MAYES 5 Commissioner GARY PIERCE 6 Commissioner 7 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION DOCKET NO. W-02860A-06-0002 8 OF NACO WATER COMPANY, LLC FOR 9 A RATE INCREASE 10 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION DOCKET NO. W-02860A-05-0727 OF NACO WATER COMPANY, LLC FOR 11 APPROVAL OF FINANCING DECISION NO. 12 **ORDER** 13 14 Open Meeting 15 July 24 and 25, 2007 Phoenix, Arizona 16 BY THE COMMISSION: 17 FINDINGS OF FACT 18 In Decision No. 69393, dated March 22, 2007, the Arizona Corporation 1. 19 Commission ("Commission") authorized Naco Water Company, LLC ("Naco") to enter into a loan 20 agreement with Water Infrastructure Finance Authority ("WIFA"). The Decision limited the term 21 of the loan to 20 years. 22 The Utilities Division Staff ("Staff") of the Commission has recently been informed 2. 23 by WIFA that it would like to designate Naco as a Disadvantaged Community (based on WIFA 24 Policy No. 1.012) as part of WIFA's loan approval to Naco. This designation would allow WIFA 25 to extend the term of the loan from 20 to 30 years and also allow WIFA to lower the interest rate 26 of the loan, thereby resulting in lower debt payments. 27 28 . . .

- 3. In order for Naco to accept a 30 year loan from WIFA, Decision No. 69393 would have to be amended.
- 4. Arizona Revised Statute ("A.R.S.") § 40-252 authorizes the Commission to amend a previous decision under notice to the affected corporation and the opportunity to be heard. Staff has notified Naco and Naco has indicated that it will waive an evidentiary hearing. In addition, Naco requests that this matter be placed on an Open Meeting agenda as soon as possible.
- 5. Staff believes that having WIFA designate Naco as a Disadvantaged Community in order to lower debt payments by having a 30 year loan with a lower interest rate would not only be beneficial to Naco but also its customers.
  - 6. Staff recommends that Decision No. 69393 be amended as follows:

Page 18, Line 14 -

Delete "20" and Replace with "up to 30"

This would result in the pertinent ordering paragraph reading as follows:

"IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Naco Water Company, LLC is authorized to borrow up to \$1,160,000 from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority for a term of up to 30 years, at the interest rate approved by WIFA."

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 1. Naco Water Company, LLC is a public service corporation pursuant to Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-250 and 40-251.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Naco Water Company, LLC and the subject matter of the application.
- 3. Staff's recommendations, as set forth in Finding of Fact No. 6 are reasonable and should be adopted.

#### **ORDER**

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Decision No. 69393 be and hereby is amended as set forth in Finding of Fact No. 6.

Decision No.

Decision No.

	Page 3	Docket	1NOS. W-02800A-00-0002, et al.
1	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Naco Water Company, LLC is authorized to borrow up		
2	to \$1,160,000 from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority ("WIFA") for a term of up to 30		
3	years at the interest rated approved by WIFA.		
	IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall be effective immediately.  BY THE ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION		
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8	CHAIRMAN	COMMISSIONER	
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11	COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER	COMMISSIONER
12		IN WITNESS WHEDEAE	I BRIAN C. McNEIL, Executive
13		Director of the Arizona	Corporation Commission, have
14			I caused the official seal of this I at the Capitol, in the City of
15		Phoenix, thisday o	f, 2007.
16			
17			
18		BRIAN C. McNEIL Executive Director	
19		Excount of Director	
20	DISSENT:		
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22	DISSENT:		
23	EGJ:SMO:lhm\RM		
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Decision No.